



# Civic Loop

Promoting Recycling through Community Leadership



Issue 4, Volume 2  
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## Montgomery County Expands Recycling Program To Include More Plastic Materials

*Now You Can  
Recycle These  
Items and MORE!*



Since 1997, only plastic bottles with narrow-necks could be recycled in Montgomery County due to the limitations of recycling markets. However, because of recent developments in the recycling industry, the County is now able to expand its recycling program by collecting additional plastic containers from single-family homes. In a continuing effort to meet its goal of recycling 50 percent of all waste generated in the County, and providing residents with the opportunity to recycle as much material as possible, the Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) is pleased to announce that effective July 1, 2008, all residents of single-family homes receiving County-provided curbside recycling collection services can now recycle all plastic bottles, containers, and lids including jars, pails/buckets, and food-grade plastic tubs.

Single-family residents can now recycle many common plastic items including:

- Plastic bottles
- Beverage containers
- Yogurt containers
- Peanut butter and mayonnaise jars
- Ice cream, butter, or margarine tubs
- Plastic lids
- Deli containers and trays
- Plastic beverage cups
- Flower pots
- Laundry detergent tubs (with plastic or metal handles)
- Kitty litter containers (with plastic or metal handles)

Simply rinse these items and place them with other commingled materials (aluminum cans and foil products, bi-metal steel/tin cans, and glass bottles and jars) in your blue recycling bin and place it at the curb on your regularly scheduled recycling collection day. If you need an additional recycling container, please call the Division's Customer Service line at 240-777-6410, or complete an on-line request at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste).

Remember that plastic containers that contained hazardous materials such as motor oil, antifreeze, and pesticides cannot be recycled. In addition, plastic wrap, plastic bags, polystyrene, and Styrofoam are not recyclable in the County's curbside recycling collection program.



# *Recycle in Summertime? You*

Along with warm weather, summer brings the smell of freshly cut grass, barbeques, picnics, vacations and fun in the sun. While spending time with family and friends this summer, remember to reduce waste and recycle as much as possible.

Recycling and reducing waste are easy even if you are on the go. Before you leave the house, think about what you are taking. If you are having a barbeque or going on a picnic, try to package your food using waste-free techniques. Think about using reusable containers, dinnerware, utensils and cloth napkins. Try including food items that have little or no packaging, such as fruit. Below are tips that can help you recycle and reduce waste this summer:

## *At a Picnic*

- Use cloth napkins instead of paper napkins or paper towels.
- Use reusable dinnerware.
- Pack food in reusable containers, including reusable and washable plates and utensils.
- Put drinks in reusable bottles. Pack reusable cups to fill and bring home the used cups to wash.
- To keep food cold, use reusable ice packs.
- Wrap food in aluminum foil which can be recycled.
- If you are visiting a park, check for their on-site recycling containers.

## *Did You Know?*

*When you recycle one aluminum can, you save enough energy to power a television set for three hours.*







# *Can Recycle ANYtime!*

## *At a Backyard or Community BBQ*

- Buy food items in bulk to reduce the amount of packaging (e.g., purchase 2-liter plastic bottles instead of individual bottles or cans).
- Use plates, glasses, napkins, dinnerware, and tablecloths that can be washed and reused.
- Put out a clearly identified recycling container to encourage your guests to recycle their commingled materials (plastic bottles, containers and lids, glass bottles and jars, steel and tin cans, aluminum cans or foil products).

## *At the Pool or Beach*

- Use reusable ice packs to keep your food cold.
- Use reusable tote bags or coolers to bring food and other personal items to and from your car.
- Check for on-site recycling containers to place your recyclable materials.

## *In Your Yard*

- Recycle your unwanted metal outdoor furniture, grill, or other scrap metal item by calling the DSWS at (240) 777-6410 to schedule a scrap metal recycling collection. Residents must call by 11 a.m. on the day before their regular recycling collection day. After the collection is scheduled, place the scrap metal items at the curbside for collection no later than 7 a.m. on your recycling collection day.
- Save time and effort by grasscycling. Remove the mower bag attachment from the lawn-mower and let the grass clippings fall back onto your lawn when you mow. The clippings will work as a fertilizer to make your lawn healthy, lush, and green. Remember, just mow and go!

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

County-provided collection service  
schedule change for  
**Independence Day,  
Friday, July 4, 2008.**

If your collection day is:	Your collection day this week is:
Monday, 6/30	Monday, 6/30 - no change
Tuesday, 7/1	Tuesday, 7/1 - no change
Wednesday, 7/2	Wednesday, 7/2 - no change
Thursday, 7/3	Thursday, 7/3 - no change
Friday, 7/4	Saturday, 7/5



## Electronics Recycling Collection Satellite Events

All events are scheduled from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. on the days listed below. No materials may be left at the site.

**Sunday, July 20, 2008:** Comus Park and Ride Lot, MD Rte 355 (Frederick Road), north of its intersection with Comus Road in Clarksburg.

**Sunday, September 21, 2008:** Damascus Park and Ride Lot, southeast corner of MD Rte 108 and Woodfield Road (MD Rte 124) in Damascus.

### The following electronic items are acceptable for recycling at these events:

- CD Players
- Cell Phones
- Calculators
- Camcorders
- Computers and computer-related products
- Consumer electronics
- Copiers
- Cords and cables
- Digital cameras
- DVD players
- Electronic toys
- Electronic typewriters
- Fax machines
- Microwave ovens
- Monitors
- PDAs
- Printers
- Projection equipment
- Scanners
- Small electronic appliances
- Stereos and speakers
- Telephones
- Televisions
- VCR players

### August 8-16, 2008: Montgomery County Agricultural Fair

Visit the Division of Solid Waste Services' exhibit. Compost bins will be available for County residents at no charge.

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling)

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Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services  
Contact: Alan Pultyniowicz  
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850  
**Important Contact Information**  
Division of Solid Waste Services  
(240) 777-6400 / (240) 777-6410  
(240) 777-6442 (TTY)  
(240) 777-6465 (fax)  
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling  
e-mail: [recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov)  
Recycling for Multi-Family Properties (240) 777-6400  
Recycling for Businesses (240) 777-6400  
County Transfer Station (301) 840-2370  
County Recycling Center (301) 417-1433  
This information is available in an alternate format by calling  
Alan Pultyniowicz at (240) 777-6400.

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